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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TOKYO 12593

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: EAID, JA

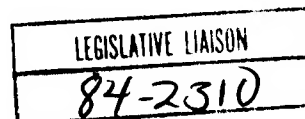
SUBJECT: PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR HIGH
- TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH

1. AT THE EMBASSADOR'S MONTHLY LUNCHEON WITH VICE-MINISTER MATSUNAGA, MATSUNAGA STATED THAT JAPAN HAS DECIDED TO EVALUATE ITS POSSIBLE PARTICIPATION IN THE PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR HIGH TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH BY SENDING A FACT FINDING TEAM TO HAWAII, WASHINGTON AND FIJI IN AUGUST. THE TEAM WILL BE LED BY THE FORMER JAPANESE AMBASSADOR TO INDONESIA, MASAO SAWAKI. THE TWO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GROUP WILL INCLUDE ONE FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL AND A UNIVERSITY EXPERT ON OCEAN THERMAL ENERGY CONVERSION TECHNOLOGY. THEY PLAN TO MEET WITH WASHINGTON OFFICIALS OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE AND ENERGY AS WELL AS USAID. THE PURPOSE OF THIS MISSION IS TO SURVEY PROJECT OBJECTIVES AND POSSIBLE RULES FOR BOTH GOV AND PRIVATE SECTOR PARTICIPATION.

2. JAPANESE PARTICIPATION IN THIS PROJECT HAS IN THE PAST BEEN THE SUBJECT OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST. HAWAII GOVERNOR GEORGE ARIYOSHI AND HAWAII SENATOR SPARK MATSUNAGA HAVE BOTH FORMALLY COMMUNICATED WITH THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT URGING THEIR PARTICIPATION. EAP/U MAY WANT TO INFORM THEIR OFFICES OF THIS DEVELOPMENT. DEPARTMENT MAY ALSO RECALL THAT VICE-PRESIDENT BUSH SENT A LETTER TO LDP LEADER MASUMI ESAKI ON THE SAME TOPIC.

MANSFIELD
END OF MESSAGE

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State Dept. review completed

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